History (Specification B)  
Unit 1  International Relations: Conflict and Peace in the Twentieth Century  
Specimen for June 2015 examinations

For this paper you must have:
• an AQA 12-page answer book

Time allowed
• 1 hour 45 minutes

Instructions
• Use black ink or a black ball-point pen.
• Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The Examining Body for this paper is AQA. The Paper Reference is 91451.
• Choose three consecutive topics.
• Answer all questions on the three consecutive topics you have chosen.
• Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information
• The topics are on the following pages:
  - Topic 1  The Origins of the First World War, c1890–1914  Page 2
  - Topic 2  Peacemaking 1918–1919 and the League of Nations  Page 3
  - Topic 3  Hitler’s Foreign Policy and the Origins of the Second World War  Page 4
  - Topic 4  The Origins of the Cold War, 1945–1960  Page 5

• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
• The sources in this question paper have been simplified to make them easier to understand.
• You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

Advice
• You are advised to spend about 35 minutes on each topic.
Choose **three consecutive** topics.

Answer **all** questions on the three topics you have chosen.

There are **20 marks** for each topic.

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**Topic 1: The Origins of the First World War, c1890–1914**

Answer questions 01, 02 and 03.

01 Describe the main features of the Alliance System which existed in Europe in 1914. **[4 marks]**

02 Study **Source A**.

**Source A** Fritz Fischer’s view of Germany’s foreign policy 1900–1914.

Fischer was a German historian, who put forward the view that Germany planned the First World War in the years before 1914.

Germany’s foreign policy was based on a wish for growth. Sometimes it was friendly and based on reaching an agreement. At other times it was aggressive. The final aim was always to expand German power and land.

Adapted from F FISCHER, Germany’s Aims in the First World War, 1966

**Source A** suggests possible aims of German foreign policy before the First World War. Do you agree that these were the main aims of Germany’s foreign policy before the war?

Explain your answer using the source **and your knowledge**. **[6 marks]**

03 Which was the more important reason for Great Britain joining the First World War in 1914:

- the Naval Race with Germany, 1906–1914
- the Schlieffen Plan?

You must refer to **both** reasons when explaining your answer. **[10 marks]**
Topic 2: Peacemaking 1918–1919 and the League of Nations

Answer questions 04 and 05.

04 Describe how the Treaty of Versailles weakened Germany. [4 marks]

05 Study Source B.


Source B suggests a weakness of the League of Nations in 1920.

Do you agree that this was the main weakness of the League of Nations?

Explain your answer using the source and your knowledge. [6 marks]

06 Which of the following crises had more significant consequences for the League of Nations:

- the Manchurian Crisis 1931–1933
- the Abyssinian Crisis 1935–1936?

You must refer to both crises when explaining your answer. [10 marks]
Answer questions 0 7 0 8 and 0 8.

0 7 Describe how Hitler took control of Austria in 1938. [4 marks]

0 8 Study Source C.

Source C A Soviet view of the Munich Agreement 1938.

The two policemen directing Hitler towards Russia are Daladier (the French Premier) and Chamberlain (the British Prime Minister).

Source C suggests a reason why Chamberlain and Daladier signed the Munich Agreement in 1938. Do you agree that this was the main reason? Explain your answer using the source and your knowledge. [6 marks]

0 9 Which was the bigger threat to European peace in the 1930s:

- the re-militarisation of the Rhineland 1936
- the Nazi-Soviet Pact 1939?

You must refer to both threats when explaining your answer. [10 marks]
Topic 4: The Origins of the Cold War, 1945–1960

Answer questions 10, 11 and 12.

10 Describe how Europe became divided by the Iron Curtain in the years 1945–1946.

[4 marks]

11 Study Source D.


Sukhanov had been a senior Soviet politician when the Marshall Plan began in 1947.

We saw the Marshall Plan as the Americans wanting to control the countries to which they gave Marshall Aid. We saw it as an act of aggression by the Americans. This is why it was never accepted by the Soviet Union.

Source D suggests reasons why the Americans introduced the Marshall Plan. Do you agree that these were the main reasons for the Marshall Plan?

Explain your answer using the source and your knowledge.

[6 marks]

12 Which was the more important cause of the development of the Cold War.

• the Berlin Blockade 1948–1949
• the Korean War 1950–1953?

You must refer to both causes when explaining your answer.

[10 marks]
Topic 5: Crises of the Cold War and Détente, 1960–1980

Answer questions 13, 14, and 15.

13 Describe how the USA and USSR almost went to war over Cuba in 1962. [4 marks]

14 Study Source E.

Source E An American cartoon published in a newspaper in the USA in 1961.

The figure at the top of the wall is Khrushchev, the Soviet leader.

Source E suggests a reason for the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961. Do you agree that this was the main reason? Explain your answer using the source and your knowledge. [6 marks]

15 Which event was the greater threat to Détente:

- the Prague Spring in Czechoslovakia in 1968
- the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan in 1979?

You must refer to both events when explaining your answer. [10 marks]

Answer questions 16, 17 and 18.

16 Describe how the Cold War was renewed by President Reagan of the United States in the 1980s.

[4 marks]

17 Study Source F.

Source F A Soviet opinion of the war in Afghanistan taken from an article in Moscow News, a Soviet newspaper, written in 1990.

The Afghan people lost a million lives in a war which we had no right to get involved in. We could not defeat the Afghan ‘bandits’ because they were fighting us as invaders.

Source F suggests reasons for the failure of the Soviets in Afghanistan by 1989. Do you agree that these were the main reasons?

Explain your answer using the source and your knowledge.

[6 marks]

18 With which of the following challenges to peace did the United Nations deal more successfully:

• the invasion of Kuwait, 1990
• the conflict in Kosovo?

You must refer to both challenges when explaining your answer.

[10 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS
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